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MCDONNELL BOEHNEN HULBERT & BERGHOFF			NOBAHAR, ABDULHAKIM	
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SUITE 3200			PAPER NUMBER	
CHICAGO, IL 60606			2132	

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/270,967	GRABELSKY ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Abdulhakim Nobahar	2132

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 October 2003.

2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-39 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1-39 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

 * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

 a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 19. 6) Other: _____

Response to Arguments

1. This communication is in response to applicants' response received on October 27, 2003.

2. The terminal disclaimer filed on October 27, 2003 by the applicants, is accepted and the examiner withdraws the double patenting rejections.

Ineffective Declaration

3. On page 2 of the declaration, paragraph no. 3 indicates that Exhibit A has been prepared prior to September 10, 2003. If applicants meant September 11, 1998 (the filing date of patent no. 6,438,612 B1), appropriate correction is necessary.

4. Applicants in paragraph no. 4, page 2 of the declaration, refer to Exhibit 1. But applicants have not provided this Exhibit.

5. The declaration filed on October 27, 2003 under 37 CFR 1.131 has been considered but is ineffective to overcome the effective date of US Patents 6,438,612 B1 (Sep. 11, 1998) reference.

6. The evidence submitted is insufficient to establish a conception of the invention prior to the effective date of the US Patent 6,438,612 B1 reference. While conception is the mental part of the inventive act, it must be capable of proof, such as by demonstrative evidence or by a complete disclosure to another. Conception is more than a vague idea of how to solve a problem. The requisite means themselves and their interaction must also be comprehended. See *Mergenthaler v. Scudder*, 1897 C.D. 724, 81 O.G. 1417 (D.C. Cir. 1897). Applicants have not demonstrated evidence of facts correlating different sections of Exhibit A to the limitations of claims 1, 2, 9, 14, 20, 28, 34 and 36. Consequently, the declaration does not establish conception.

7. The evidence submitted is insufficient to establish diligence from a date prior to the date of reduction to practice of the US Patent 6,438,612 B1 reference to either a constructive reduction to practice or an actual reduction to practice. Applicants allege that the inventions were diligently reduced to practice is insufficient. Evidence must be provided exhibiting the continuous work of the applicants from the time of the conception of the inventions to the time of reduction of the inventions to practice.

8. The amendments to claims 1, 2, 8, 20, 24-26 and 36 are acknowledged and that these amendments do not introduce any new matter to the claimed invention.

9. Applicants' arguments have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

10. In light of the claims amendments, examiner withdraws the claim rejections – 35 USC § 112 except for claim 25 that is provided below.

11. However, In light of the above submission examiner maintains the previous claim rejections 35 USC § 102 (e) and 103 with minor modification to reflect the claims amendments.

Information Disclosure Statement

The information disclosure statements filed on August 22, 2000 and June 3, 2002 fail to comply with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2), which requires a legible copy of each U.S. and foreign patent; each publication or that portion which caused it to be listed; and all other information or that portion which caused it to be listed. They have been placed in the application file, but the information referred to therein do not contain the referenced documents listed below, thus the missing documents have not been considered.

<u>IDS</u>	<u>Referenced Documents</u>
August 22, 2000	International Search Report for PCT/US00/07057, Dated August 9, 2000
June 3, 2002	Numbers 36 and 52 from the list of documents

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claim 25 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Referring to claim 25, this claim is rejected for lack of antecedent bases for "the first protocol" on the first line.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) do not apply to the examination of this application as the application being examined was not (1) filed on or after November 29, 2000, or (2) voluntarily

published under 35 U.S.C. 122(b). Therefore, this application is examined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

Claims 1-33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Ylonen et al. (6,438,612 B1) (hereinafter Ylonen).

Referring to claims 1, 2 and 9, Ylonen discloses:

"A method for distributed network address translation with security, comprising the following steps:

At a first network device on a first computer network, requesting with a first protocol, one or more locally unique security values from a second network device on the first computer network to uniquely identify the first network device during secure communications with a third network device on a second external network and for distributed network address translation with security;

Receiving the one or more locally unique security values on the first network device from the second network device with the first protocol;

Storing the one or more locally unique security values on the first network device, wherein the one or more locally unique security values are used to create a secure virtual connection for secure communications with the third network device and for distributed network address translation;

Receiving a request message with a first protocol on a second network device for one or more locally unique security values from a first network device; allocating one or more locally unique security values on the second network device;

Allocating one or more locally unique security values on the second network device;

Storing a network address for the first network device with the one or more locally unique security values in a table associated with the second network device, wherein the table is used to maintain a mapping between a network device and one or more locally unique security values for distributed network address translation; and

Sending the one or more locally unique security values in a response message with the first protocol to the first network device." See abstract, col. 1, lines 32-40, col. 2, lines 60-67, col. 3, line 49-col. 4, 16, col. 5, lines 61-col. 6, line 5, col. 7, lines 6-17 and lines 46-55, col. 8, lines 44-67 and col. 9, lines 33-67.

Referring to claims 3 and 11, Ylonen discloses:

"The method of Claims 1 and 9 wherein the second network device is a distributed network address translation router." See col. 1, lines 12-20.

Referring to claims 4 and 12, Ylonen discloses:

"The method of Claims 1 and 9 wherein the one or more locally unique security values are one or more security parameter indexes for an Internet Protocol security protocol." See col. 3, lines 16-31.

Referring to claims 5 and 13, Ylonen discloses:

“The method of Claims 4 and 10 wherein the Internet Protocol security protocol is any of an Authentication Header protocol, Encapsulated Security Payload protocol or an Internet Key Exchange protocol.” See col. 3, lines 16-31 and col. 4, lines 39-50.

Referring to claim 6 Ylonen, discloses:

“The method of Claim 1 wherein the first protocol is a Port Allocation Protocol.”

See col. 8, lines 20-27.

Referring to claim 7, Ylonen discloses:

“The method of Claim 1 wherein the requesting step further includes requesting one or more locally unique ports used to uniquely identify the first network device on the first network for distributed network address translation.” See col. 2, lines 6-10 and col. 6, lines 6-13.

Referring to claim 8, Ylonen discloses:

“The method of Claim 7 wherein the locally unique ports are Port Allocation Protocol ports.” See col. 2, lines 6-10, col. 6, lines 6-13 and col. 8, lines 20-27.

Referring to claim 10, Ylonen discloses:

“A computer readable medium having stored therein instructions for causing a

central processing unit to execute the method of Claim 9." See col. 15, lines 38-48.

Referring to claims 14 and 20, Ylonen discloses:

"A method for distributed network address translation using security, comprising the following steps:

Receiving a first message in a second secure protocol on a first network device on a first network to establish a secure virtual connection to the first network device from a third network device on a second external network;

Selecting a locally unique security value to use for the secure virtual connection from a list of locally unique security values, wherein the list of locally unique security values was received from a second network device on the first network with a first protocol;

Sending a second message with second secure protocol to establish a secure virtual connection to the first network device on the first network from the third network device on the second external network wherein the second message includes the selected locally unique security value and security certificate sent to the first network device by the second network device;

Sending a request message in a second secure protocol from a first network device on a first network to a second network device on the first network, wherein the request message in the second secure protocol includes security information;

Routing the request message from the second network device to a third network device on a second external network over a secure virtual connection between the first network device and the third network device;

Receiving a reply message in the second secure protocol from the third network device on the second network device on the first network for the first network device, wherein the reply message in the second secure protocol includes security information from the request message allocated by the second network device; and

Routing the reply message from the second network device to the first network device on the first network using one or more locally unique ports used for distributed network address translation." See abstract, col. 1, lines 12-40, col. 3, line 49-col. 4, 16, col. 5, lines 61-col. 6, line 5, col. 7, lines 6-17, col. 8, lines 44-67, col. 9, lines 33-67 and col. 11, lines 42-64.

Referring to claims 15 and 21, Ylonen discloses:

"A computer readable medium having stored therein instructions for causing a central processing unit to execute the method of Claims 14 and 20." See col. 15, lines 38-48.

Referring to claim 16, Ylonen discloses:

"The method of Claim 14 wherein the list of one or more locally unique security values is a list of one or more security parameter indexes for Internet Protocol security protocol." See col. 3, lines 16-31.

Referring to claim 17, Ylonen discloses:

"The method of Claim 14 wherein the Internet Protocol security protocol is any of an Authentication Header protocol, Encapsulated Security Payload protocol, or an Internet Key Exchange Protocol." See col. 3, lines 16-31 and col. 4, lines 39-50.

Referring to claims 18 and 25, Ylonen discloses:

"The method of Claims 14 and 20 wherein the first protocol is a Port Allocation Protocol and the second secure protocol is an Internet Protocol security protocol." See col. 3, lines 16-31 and col. 8, lines 20-27.

Referring to claim 19, Ylonen discloses:

"The method of Claim 14 wherein the secure virtual connection is an Internet Protocol security protocol security association." See col. 1, lines 48-57, col. 6, lines 6-13 and col. 7, lines 51-60.

Referring to claim 22, Ylonen discloses:

"The method of Claim 20 wherein the step of sending a request message in a second 5 secure protocol includes:

Constructing a virtual tunnel header for a local network address determined for the second network device;

Prepending the virtual tunnel header to the request message, wherein the virtual tunnel header is used to create a virtual tunnel between the first network device and the second network device;

Sending the request message to the second network device from the first network device over the virtual tunnel.” See col. 2, 17-43, and line 60-col. 3, line 15, col. 3, lines 49-56 and col. 5, lines 56-67.

Referring to claim 23 Ylonen discloses:

“The method of Claim 20 wherein the step of routing the reply from the second network device to the first network device on the first network using the locally unique port from the reply in the second secure protocol includes:

Determining a local network address for the first network device using the locally unique port associated with the second network device;

Constructing a virtual tunnel header for the determined local network address for the first network device;

Prepending the virtual tunnel header to the reply message, wherein the virtual tunnel header is used to create a virtual tunnel between the second network device and the first network device; and

Forwarding the reply message to the first network device from the second network device over the virtual tunnel.” See col. 1, lines 50-58, col. 2, lines 6-50 and col. 11, lines 4-60.

Referring to claim 24, Ylonen discloses:

"The method of Claim 23 wherein the local network address is an Internet Protocol address and the virtual tunnel header is an Internet Protocol tunnel header." See col. 1, lines 48-57, col. 2, lines 35-52, col. 6, lines 6-13 and col. 7, lines 51-60.

Referring to claim 26, Ylonen discloses:

"The method of Claim 25 wherein the Internet Protocol security protocol is any of an Authentication Header protocol, Encapsulated Security Payload protocol, or an Internet Key Exchange Protocol." See col. 3, lines 16-31 and col. 4, lines 39-50.

Referring to claim 27, Ylonen discloses:

"The method of Claim 20 wherein the security information includes any of a locally unique security value or a security certificate." See col. 1, lines 26-40 and col. 2, lines 6-16.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter

as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 28-39 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ylonen et al (6,438,612 B1) (hereinafter Ylonen) in view of Danieli (6,510,513 B1).

Referring to claims 28, 34 and 36, Ylonen teaches:

“Requesting one or more locally unique ports with a first message from a first protocol on a first network device from a second network device, wherein the one or more locally unique ports are used for distributed network address translation;

Requesting one or more locally unique security values with a first message from the first protocol from the second network device, wherein the one or more locally unique security values are used with a second secure protocol to establish a secure virtual connection between the first network device and a third network device on a second external computer network and are used for distributed network address translation with security;

Sending one or more locally unique ports allocated on a second network device on a first computer network to a first network device on the first computer network with a second message from a first protocol wherein the one or more locally unique ports are used for distributed network address translator;

Sending one or more locally unique security values allocated on the second network device to the first network device with a second message from the first protocol wherein the one or more locally unique security values are used with a second secure protocol to establish a secure virtual connection between the first network device and a third network device on a second external computer network and are used for distributed network address translation with security;

A routing network device for allocating one or more locally unique ports, one or more locally unique security values and security certificates used for distributed network address translation with security for a plurality of other network devices, wherein the second network device provides local security certificate services and routing services for distributed network address translation with security; and

A network address table associated with the routing network device for mapping one or more locally unique security values to a network address for a network device." See abstract, col. 1, lines 32-40, col. 2, lines 60-67, col. 3, line 49-col. 4, 16, col. 5, lines 61-col. 6, line 5, col. 7, lines 6-17 and lines 46-55, col. 8, lines 44-67 and col. 9, lines 33-67.

However, Ylonen does not teach the use of a security certificate to be provided to a requesting network device from the router for associating an encryption key with other information related to the network device. Danieli teaches:

"Requesting a security certificate on the first network device from the second network device, wherein the security certificate includes a binding between a public encryption key and a combination of a network address for the first network device and

the one or more locally unique ports and the second network device provides local security certificate services;

Sending a security certificate created on the second network device to the first network device, wherein the second network device provides local security certificate services on the first computer network and wherein the security certificate includes a binding for a public encryption key for the first network device and a combination of a network address for the first network device and the one or more locally unique ports allocated to the first network device to authenticate an identity for the first network device for a secure virtual connection between the first network device and a third network device on a second external computer network;

A security certificate for binding a public encryption key for the network device and a combination of a network address for the network device and one or more locally unique ports allocated to first network device by the routing network device to authenticate an identity for the network device for a secure virtual connection with external network device on an external computer network, wherein the security certificate is issued by a second network device providing local security certificate services for distributed network address translation with security." See col. 1, lines 44-62, col. 2, lines 42-65, col. 5, lines 50-61, col. 7, lines 6-27, col. 8, lines 28-33 and col. 11, lines 48-62.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the use of a security certificate to be provided to the communicating network device by the router as taught in Danieli with the

method of Ylonen because it would provide for a mechanism to guarantee the authenticity and validity of electronic data (col. 2, lines 31-35).

Referring to claims 29 and 35, Ylonen discloses:

"A computer readable medium having stored therein instructions for causing a central processing unit to execute the method of Claims 28 and 34." See col. 15, lines 38-48.

Referring to claims 30 and 38, Ylonen discloses:

"The method of Claims 28 and 36 wherein the one or more locally unique security values are security parameter indexes from an Internet Protocol security protocol." See col. 3, lines 16-31.

Referring to claims 31 and 37, Ylonen discloses:

"The method of Claims 28 and 37 wherein the second network device is a distributed network address translation router." See col. 1, lines 12-20.

Referring to claim 32, Ylonen discloses:

"The method of Claim 28 further comprising:

Establishing a secure virtual connection between the first network device and the third network device on the second external network using the security certificate." See col. 1, 50-58 and col. 4, lines 24-38.

Referring to claims 33 and 39, Ylonen discloses:

"The method of Claims 32 and 36, wherein the secure virtual connection is an Internet Protocol security protocol security association." See col. 1, lines 48-57, col. 6, lines 6-13 and col. 7, lines 51-60.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Abdulhakim Nobahar whose telephone number is 703-305-8074. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gilberto Barron can be reached on 703-305-1830. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-746-7239.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3900.

Abdulhakim Nobahar
Examiner
Art Unit 2132

AN
January 7, 2004

a.n.
Gilberto

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SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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